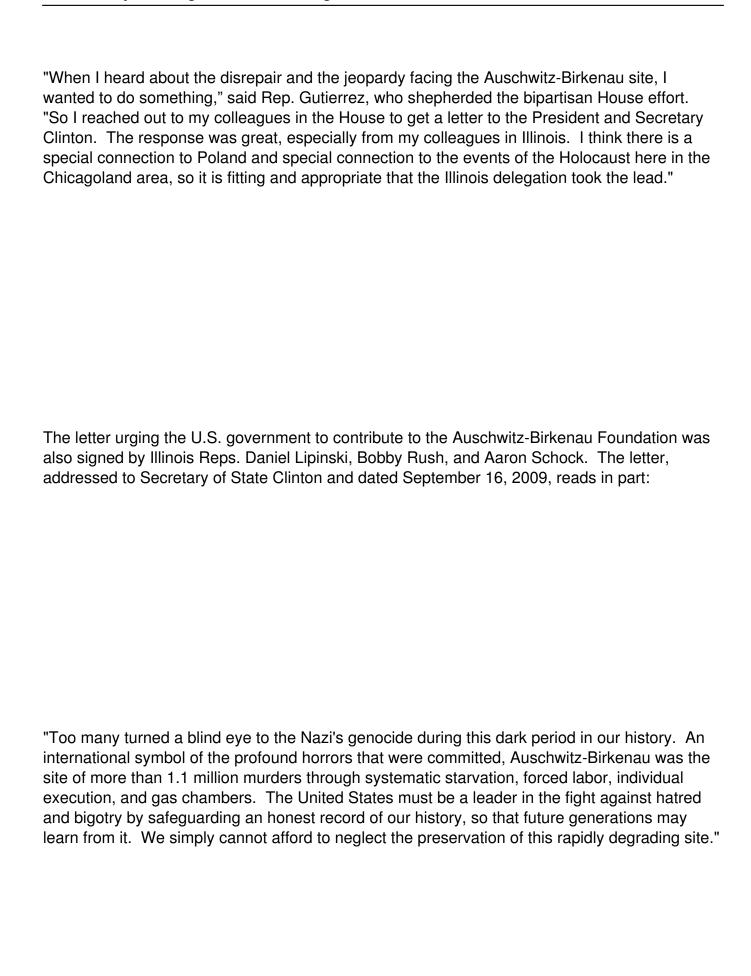
SKOKIE, IL (August 11, 2010) – Today Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), joined Chicago and Illinois leaders, dignitaries, Holocaust survivors, diplomats and other Members of Congress at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie to mark the recent announcement by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton that the U.S. government would invest \$15 million in the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation in Poland. The money will go toward preserving and maintaining the site of one of the most notorious death camps of the Holocaust. The grant, which will be paid out over five years beginning in 2012, will help protect the Auschwitz-Birkenau site as a museum and historical site of conscience, thereby preserving the memory of the Holocaust.

"As a Jewish American, I feel deeply the importance of preserving the Auschwitz-Birkenau site in Poland," said Schakowsky, whose Congressional District includes the Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie. "It is essential that we preserve that terrible place – where the systematic murder of Jews occurred during the Holocaust – as a permanent reminder that we must never revisit history's darkest hour. It is fitting that we meet here today at the Holocaust Museum and Education Center, which is dedicated to the same mission and in Skokie, a place where so many Holocaust survivors found a new home. We must never forget the lives lost during the Holocaust and we must honor their memory by preventing future genocides."



Secretary Clinton announced the \$15 million grant in July of this year, which will be part of a 120 million Euro endowment for the preservation of the historic site